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## **CURA Tells Stockholders Safety Compromised at Pilgrim**

The Co-chairman of Citizens Urging Responsible Energy (CURE) took a message to stockholders at Boston Edison's Annual Meeting last week. She said the Company is misleading stockholders with its rosy portrayal of Pilgrim's operation.

Mary Ott cited a recent Boston Globe story on deregulation, which quoted a study done for the Attorney General's office which found... "that nuclear plants could be big losers in competition, especially 3 reactors that are expensive to run." The study concluded that... "in the most likely deregulation scenario, Pilgrim would bring a \$373 million loss to its owners...if it kept operating until its license expires in 2012."

CURE says that in an effort to compete in this climate of deregulation, management is cutting corners on safety to maximize electrical output.

In monitoring Pilgrim's operational history through Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) reports the group finds disturbing trends and a return to a corporate philosophy which caused a near meltdown at Pilgrim in 1986, rendering the plant useless for 32 months:

- high risk maintenance is now being down while Pilgrim is operating
- severe staffing cuts have been made in security
- important maintenance has been sidetracked
- 50% of the operators failed a recent licensing exam
- human performance problems have escalated
- NRC violations are being incurred
- whistleblowers have brought forward safety concerns

Appealing to the stockholders on behalf of CURE and Pilgrim's neighbors, Ott asked they send a message to the Board of Directors to say "No to Pilgrim Power."

Thomas May, Chairman of the Board, declined to comment on CURE's charges until prompted by stockholders. He then said he disagreed with the groups' views and that regulators were satisfied with Pilgrim's performance.